

THE
ART
OF
HAIR DRESSING,
OR,

The Gentleman's Director;

Being a concise set of RULES for Dressing
GENTLEMEN'S HAIR, calculated to
instruct those who have never learned, as well
as assist others who have formerly been taught,
and may have forgot that useful Art.

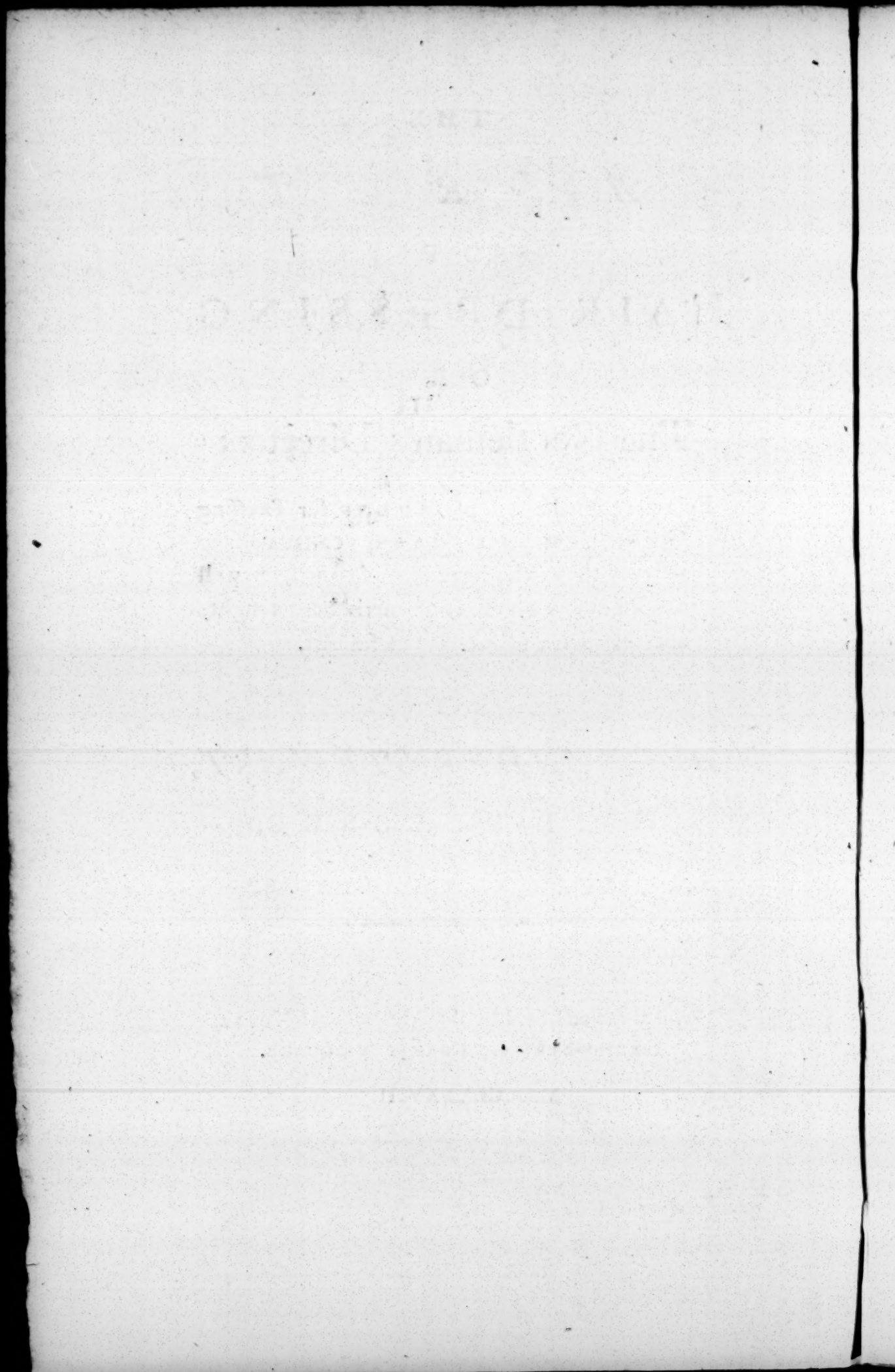
BY

ALEXANDER STEWART,

HAIR-DRESSER,

Printed for and Sold by the AUTHOR, at No. 12,
DAVIES-STREET, BERKELEY-SQUARE.

M,DCCLXXXVIII,



INTRODUCTION.

IF we peruse the historic page, we find that in all ages, from the remotest periods of antiquity to the present time; and in every state of human society, from the rudest and most savage to the most refin'd and luxurious, the dress or decoration of the hair has been the subject of much attention, and, in some measure, the test of national taste and refinement. It would exceed the limits of this short introduction to expatiate on its general utility, altho' it might well deserve the attention of the historian and philosopher, to trace the history and investigate the cause of this *universal* custom of dressing
the

INTRODUCTION:

the hair. But the following pages being chiefly intended for deficient practitioners, the author has purposely avoided all unnecessary or scientific disquisitions, which would greatly add to the number of pages and increase the price.

THE



THE
ART of HAIR-DRESSING, &c.

To Comb out the Long Hair or Queue.

TAKE the hair in the hollow of your left hand, which you must keep close down on the back or shoulders of the person you are dressing, and standing at arms length from him, bending yourself a little forward, and letting your joints yield and move easily; begin near the points of the hair, combing it first from above and then from below, and advancing upon the uncombed part, by degrees on each side, until you have got the whole perfectly clear—Your strokes with the comb should be short, quick and easy, always avoiding those long strokes or fetches, which would torture the head and pull off the hair.

To Comb out the Toupee and Curls.

Take the hair between the fore and middle finger of your left hand, the other two fingers supporting it, and your thumb stretched out by itself, that it may be out of the way of the comb;
then

then comb the hair quick and easy over your fore finger, beginning near the roots, and proceeding gradually towards the points; then pressing your thumb upon your fore-finger bring the frize down from the root towards the back part of your fingers, and stretching out your thumb, comb it over your fore-finger in the same manner as before, and so on till the whole is entirely combed out. Next you must carefully divide the toupee and curls from the back hair, and, in case it is a pin'd curl, the curls from the toupee, observing that the hair forming in the face a peak or angle about an inch above the fore part of the ear belongs to the toupee, and all the hair under that peak to the curl. After you have divided the hair, put a frize in the root of the curls, and turn them back behind the ears to keep them out of the way while you are papering or curling the toupee, and tying the long hair close to the head to keep it out of the way, proceed

To Curl the Hair.

Begin at the right side of the head to paper or curl with toupee irons, it is not material whether at the front or back part of the toupee, but the author would recommend beginning at the front of all feather toupees, and at the back part of such as are long and thick, lift the hair immediately above the right curl with your comb in your left hand and toupee irons in your right, observing to keep the solid round part of your toupee irons innermost or next the head, be careful to catch the points of the hair, otherwise it will never dress well,

well, then roll your toupee irons close down to the head, but not so as to give any pain, at the same time applying the fingers and thumb of your left hand to the hair thus roll'd up, by which means you will feel the heat with your fingers as soon as the person you are dressing will, and in taking out your toupee irons, you must turn them one half or quarter backwards, then with your little finger press open the under part of the irons a little, and by moving them gently they will easily come out: and so on through the whole toupee. If you find it necessary to turn the curls it will be proper to put a pin into each of them immediately after extracting the irons, otherwise it will have very little effect.

To Tye the Hair:

After loosing the long hair, and running your comb twice or thrice through it, if you mean to thicken or fill it well, you must divide it into two or three parts—First dividing the hair into two, the smallest quantity undermost, lay the upper division over the crown of the head, then run your comb once through the under part, take some pomatum, and, when little more than half worked in your hands, put it carefully in at the roots of the hair, through which you will run the wide end of your comb again to open it, and taking some powder in your right hand, lay hold of the hair with your left, about six inches distant from the head, and holding it up a little, put the powder in close to the roots of the hair, opening it at the same time with your fingers to receive the powder; then run
the

the wide end of your comb through the hair, and lifting the hair with your left hand considerably higher than the roots of it, shake it up gently to return the powder which was carried towards the points of the hair by the last stroke of your comb, which you must repeat till the hair is properly mixed with powder, using powder and pomatum as often as you see necessary; then taking that part of the hair which was laid over the crown of the head, and running your comb once through it separate and fill it in the same manner as the other part, until the whole is compleatly filled or thickened; then holding the hair very steady in your hand close on the neck, after a slight stroke of your comb on each side, tie it fast. For a **TWIST** or **PLAIT** you must divide the hair into two or three parts, and run your comb through each division, then take a little powder and pomatum, and after working them together in your hands, put a little gently upon the hair above the tye, and upon each division or part of the hair, running them easily through your hands.

To make a Twist.

Cross the right hand part over the left, which part you must convey under it with the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand, and with the other three fingers lay hold of that part of the hair which was in the right hand, holding it down in the hollow of the hand leaving the right hand entirely at liberty, one part of the hair being held by the fore-finger and thumb, and the other part by the other three fingers of the left hand; then with
your

your right hand take hold of that part of the hair that is between the fore-finger and thumb of the left hand, and with the fore-finger and thumb of the left hand lay hold of that part which is held by the other three fingers of the same hand, so that each hand is in the same position as at first: And go on in the same manner to the points of the hair, when you may make a short or long twist, as the gentleman you are dressing chuses. Powder it immediately.

To make a Plait.

After the hair is thoroughly comb'd, lift it up easily in your hand, and separate the short hair from underneath the long hair, divide the short hair into two parts, and tie it easily across the roots of the long hair in order to prevent the powder from falling out or the hairs getting entirely loose in the neck; but be sure to avoid tying the hair close down unless it be by particular desire. Then divide the long hair into three parts, and after running your comb through each of them, apply your pomatum as in making a twist. Then take each side part in the hollow of each hand, which you are to hold with the 2d, 3d, and 4th. fingers of each, that your fore-fingers and thumbs may be entirely disengaged; with the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand take hold of the middle part of the hair, the right hand part cross'd over the middle part will come across the thumb of your left hand, at the same time lifting your middle finger from the hollow of your hand, lay hold of the part against the ball of the
B
thumb

thumb which the right hand has conveyed to the left ; then the right hand will be entirely disengaged, one division of the hair being held in the hollow of the left hand by the third and fourth fingers, another by the fore-finger and thumb, and the third division, by the middle finger press'd against the ball of the thumb, and with your right hand take hold of the part held by the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand, and with the fore-finger and thumb of your right take hold of the part held by the middle finger of your left hand against the ball of your thumb, the left hand part cross over the thumb of your right as before directed. Repeat this process to the points of the hair, and then turn it up, putting in your comb for that purpose at the top of the head or where it may best suit. The hair may also be tied at the root for a plait as well as for a twist, and turn'd up or under at pleasure, tied as a twist.

To Frise the Toupee.

Standing behind the person to be dress'd, begin to frise at the left side of the head, and go regularly round to the right before you attempt to finish any part of it. First, take hold of a small quantity of the hair next the face immediately above the left curl, between the fore and middle finger of your left hand, pressing your thumb upon your fore-finger to hold the hair as fast as you find necessary when frising ; keep your middle finger at the distance of one inch from the head or roots of the hair, which you are to hold almost upright at the front, gradually inclining backwards as you go on.

Recover

Recover the hair from the roots every three or four strokes of frise, by running your comb through that part of it which you hold in your fingers, to keep the hair clear from the roots and a proper quantity between your fingers. Be careful to join your frising properly from left to right, and throw on some powder. Then standing before, comb up the front hair straight and regular, taking care not to comb out the frise from the roots of the hair; laying the ball of your left hand close to the face, the fingers and thumb being stretched over the hair, and so holding it easily, frise the surface of the toupee lightly, all round, and every three or four strokes, gently run the comb up again the hairs to make the surface all regular, as above directed. It is necessary sometimes to frise in some hard pomatum round the front of the toupee, which may be done in the following manner. Take some hard pomatum and work it a little on the palm of your hand to soften it, then rub the fine end of your comb once or twice upon the pomatum, but never so as to take too much at once, run the fore-finger and thumb of your left hand once or twice along the teeth of your comb, taking care not to work the pomatum to an oil, and in case the hair wants combing up, use the wide end of your comb for that purpose, and then frise in the pomatum. Then with the wide end of your comb make up any deficiencies that there may be by entering the teeth of it into the hair and raising the frise, to the surface.

To Dress the Curls.

To dress the toupee with a loose curl, frise the hair down over the ear as low as it will admit or is necessary, and with the fine end of your comb drawn from under the hair from the top of the ear to the points.

To make the first curl begin at the front on the right side, and comb the points of the hair gently over your fore-finger or two fingers, and at the back part of the left curl your toupee may be formed round, square, or flat at the top. For a pin curl frise the hair well with some pomatum at the roots, and in case the toupee comes over the roots, turn or push it up a little until you have applied powder and pomatum to the curls, and, before you pin them, bring down the toupee and nearly finish it. Take the hair of the curl betwixt your fore and middle finger, which you may draw over it once or twice, which will lay the started hairs and smoothen the curl and straight it from the roots, keeping it close to the face, and in the form you intend to pin it. Then bringing the fore and middle fingers of your left hand within half, or three quarters of an inch of the points of the hair, lay the wide end of your comb flat on the second and third fingers, advancing a little on the hollow of your left hand, and force the teeth of the comb half, or entirely through the hair across your fore-finger, your thumb laying over to the left side out of the way. As you take out your fore-finger from the fold or middle of the hair, turn your comb and hand half round, upwards, and again with your fore-finger on the inside
of

of the comb or next the head, catch fast hold of the hair as before, from front to back, or back to front; then, your comb being disengaged, go on in the same manner bringing up the curl till it is at a proper height. Take your first hold with the pin close to the face, two or three holds being sufficient. The great variety in the form of faces, and the difference of taste in different people render it almost impossible to give fixed rules for the height, width or form of curls. But the following observations may assist the judgment of the learner. A full-faced gentleman should have a large curl, a little smaller before than behind, neither too high or too low, with a clean bold open front, that is the fore and back part turned up a little, the middle dropping a curve. A long thin face requires a large straight open curl, rather flat than otherwise, and dress'd low. For a little round face, dress the curls rather high, small and close at the front standing out from the head, dropping in a semicircular curve in the middle and rising a little behind. A small thin face should have middle sized open straight curls dress'd, neither high nor low.

To finish the Toupee and Curls.

Take some soft pomatum, and, after working it a little in your hands, draw the wide end of your comb once across the hollow of your left hand, and begin above the right curl by laying your hand, with the fingers extended over the surface of the toupee, and with your comb enter the fringe and raise it up to the fingers of your left hand, so as to smooth and fill up all hollows or deficiencies in the
surface

surface of the toupee, observing, after every two or three moves of your comb, to draw it across the palm of your hand, so that each tooth of the comb may have a little pomatum on it; and the pomatum on your hand will at the same time smooth and fix the surface hair, and when regularly done will hold it firm, and retain the powder, which you must apply immediately and puff on lightly. When nearly half powdered, take your tail comb or pin, and raise up any hollows that remain. Then take some more pomatum on the palm of each hand and gently touch the hair all over with it, and if there are any loose hairs at the curls, rub your tail comb or pin in the pomatum on your hand, and with it lay hold of the loose hair and stretch it out at full length over the curl, stroking it over the curl once or twice with the comb or pin; and then powder the hair all over equally, standing at a proper distance, and throwing on very little at a time with a silk puff. If there are any *started* hairs touch them gently with your down puff, and with it also touch the back hair all the way down.

To Queue the Hair.

Let the end you intend to make the knot of be left out under the first fold of the ribbon, which you will convey from right to left round the hair downwards first and then upwards, one edge of the ribbon covering the other. If the queue is not tight or hard enough, by holding the end of the ribbon with your teeth, with your hand, beginning at the end of the queue, roll or rather turn it round
in

in your hand gently from the points to the roots,
by which means you may make it as hard as you
please, and holding the hair close down in the neck
all the while, tye the knot about half an inch from
the hair and straight in the middle of the queue.

Entered at STATIONER'S-HALL.

The AUTHOR assures the publick that all his
Copies, in case of imposition, are signed by
his own hand writing.

A. Stewart

F I N I S.

in your hand, write from the point to the words
by which means it may make it as hard as you
please, and whether the hand is down in the neck
all the way, or the hand is about the middle of the
neck, and the right in the middle of the chest.

Entered as Second-Class Matter, June 15, 1879.

The purpose of this publication is to
provide a medium for the publication of
the work of the writers.

FINIS

